

-2: Synthesis of the 20-base phosphorothioate oligonucleotide

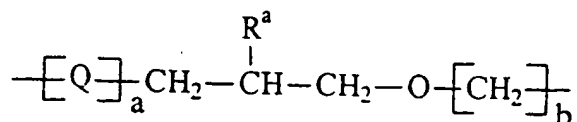
sequence dGCCCAAGCTGGCATCCGTCA (trityl-off) (Sequence ID No. 1).

At page 42, before the Claims, kindly insert the attached SEQUENCE LISTING, and renumber the pages containing the Claims to reflect pages 43-84.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 18 (Amended). The reusable linker arm defined in Claim 1,

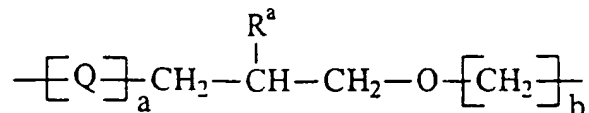
wherein T has the formula:



wherein a is 0 or 1, Q is an organic moiety, R<sup>a</sup> is selected from -OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -NR and -OR wherein R is a protecting group and b is an integer having a value of 0-40.

Claim 24 (Amended). The reusable linker arm defined in Claim 1,

wherein T has the formula:



wherein a is 0 or 1, Q is an organic moiety, R<sup>a</sup> is selected from -OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -NR and -OR wherein R is a protecting group and b is an integer having a value of 0-40.